

**POLICY OF THE
STOCKBRIDGE CEMETERY COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 39, STOCKBRIDGE, VERMONT 05772
802-746-8400**

Introduction

The Stockbridge Cemetery Commission (SCC) is a committee, composed of three commissioners, who are elected to serve a staggered three-year term. Our meetings are announced on the Town's website: <https://stockbridgevt.gov>. and open to the public. All burial records are open to the public and can be viewed at the Town Office.

Please direct all concerns regarding the Cemeteries to the SCC

The Cemeteries in the Town of Stockbridge, Vermont
Abbott, Bartlett, Durkee, Hagar, Maplewood,
Mount Pleasant, South Hill, Stratton, Sylvester, and Watkins

Cemetery Guidelines

Our Cemeteries are always open to visitors. Burials can take place from dawn until dusk between May 1 and November 30, weather permitting. Burials between December 1 and April 30 will, due to special circumstances, be considered by the SCC. Care of the cemeteries is assumed by the SCC. It includes occasional cutting of the grass and general maintenance.

Persons who are eligible to be buried in a Stockbridge cemetery

- A present lot owner
- A person who has been willed a lot by its owner
- A lot owner may leave the lot to the Cemetery, in trust, for the use and benefit of any person designated in the will. If the lot is not mentioned in the will it will pass to the heirs, as if the owner had died without a will. 18 V.S.A. § 5531(a).
- A spouse of the person to whom a lot is willed
- A year-round resident of Stockbridge, VT
- A long-time resident who has spent years in out-of-town care
- A person who has a long-standing personal association with Stockbridge, VT
- A husband or wife is generally entitled to be interred in a lot owned by the spouse. If two spouses live separately, and one spouse owns a lot to which the other has no other legal right to share, the owner-spouse may defeat the other spouse's right to interment by filing a written objection with the cemetery organization at least 30 days before the other spouse dies. 18 V.S.A. § 5531 b

State burials: When a person who is receiving public assistance under Title IV or XVI of the Social Security Act, or nursing home care under Title XIX of the Social Security Act, or assistance under state aid to the aged, blind or disabled, or an honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the U.S. military forces to the extent funds are available and to the extent authorized by department regulations, or who is in the custody of a state institution, or who is an honorably discharged veteran, dies in Vermont, the department of human services (or the agency that has custody of the individual) will pay the burial expenses up to a certain cost to be determined by the department of human services

Purchasing cemetery lots

Lots are solely for the burial of human remains. It measures 4' x 10' and can accommodate 1 casket or 4 urns.

Lots are sold at the discretion of the SCC and in sequential order.

The price of one lot is currently \$350. Four 6" x 6" x 6" blank granite cornerstones are \$132 and the installation of same \$100, for a total of \$582.

Upon receipt of payment by the SCC, a lot location will be assigned.

If the buyer has personalized cornerstones installed within one year of Lot purchase date the price of the returned original cornerstones will be refunded.

Lots may not be resold but can be returned to the Town for a refund of the purchase price

Unless otherwise approved by the SCC the following regulations must be observed

- Burial of remains in a casket must be at least 3 1/2' deep, measured from the natural surface of the ground to the bottom of the outside casket.
- Excavation of a burial site must be arranged with our Sexton who is also responsible for finish grading, replacing sod and grass seeding.
- The removal of human remains for burial within the same cemetery, within or outside of Vermont, requires a removal permit issued by the Town Clerk.
- Prior to installation of a memorial stone, the SCC must verify the lot location, approve the stone's orientation and installation.
- A memorial must be installed within one year of date of death on all occupied lots, with a minimum engraving of first and last name, date of birth and death of the deceased.
- Perennial plantings will be done and cared for by the SCC.
- Lots may not be enclosed with fences, curbing, or hedges.
- Perennial plants, glass, plastic, and metal containers are not permitted,
- All ornamentations must be removed by April 15 by the lot owner.

Stockbridge Cemetery Commission

Brenda Hillier

Richard F. Lunna

Mette S. Rea

Effective July 1, 2022